REMARKS

The examiner has required restriction among the following ten groups: —

Group I, presently comprising claim 1, drawn to an antibody specific for MORT-1 protein;

Group II, presently comprising claims 2 and 14, drawn to a method of modulating a FAS-R ligand effect on cells with a viral vector;

Group III, presently comprising claims 6 and 17, drawn to a method of treating tumor cells or HIV with a viral vector;

Group IV, presently comprising claim 3, drawn to a method of modulating a FAS-R ligand effect on cells with an antibody;

Group V, presently comprising claims 4, 5, 15 and 16, drawn to a method of modulating a FAS-R ligand effect on cells with an oligonucleotide sequence encoding an antisense molecule;

Group VI, presently comprising claims 7 and 18, drawn to a method of modulating a FAS-R ligand effect on cells comprising applying the ribozyme procedure;

Group VII, presently comprising claims 8, 12, 13 and 19, drawn to a method of modulating a FAS-R ligand effect on cells with a MORT-1 polypeptide;

Group VIII, presently comprising claim 9, drawn to drawn to a method of isolating and identifying proteins, factors, and receptor that bind to MORT-1 by using chromatography;

Group IX, presently comprising claim 10, drawn to drawn to drawn to a method of isolating and identifying proteins that bind to MORT-1 by using a yeast two-hybrid system; and

Group X, presently comprising claim 11 , drawn to a method of isolating and identifying a protein capable of binding to the intracellular domain of FAS-R.

Applicants elect Group IX, claim 10, with traverse insofar as Groups VIII and IX are concerned. Non-elected claims 1-8 and 11-19 are canceled without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application(s) thereon.

Traversal insofar as Groups VIII and IX are concerned is because claims 9 and 10 are drawn to the same invention. This is clear from new independent claim 20, from which both claims 9 and 10 depend. The use of chromatography or a yeast two-hybrid system are merely embodiments of the presently claimed generic method for isolating and identifying polypeptides capable of binding to a MORT-1 polypeptide.

Support for the producing step recited in new claim 20 is found in the specification on page 32, paragraph 70, and page 33, paragraph 72, where there is disclosure of using the yeast

two-hybrid system and affinity chromatography to isolate, identify and clone other proteins capable of binding to MORT-1.

Withdrawal of the requirement insofar as Groups VIII and IX are concerned and examination of claims 9, 10 and 20 on the merits are respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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